PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 215743/RV/jn	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 June 2005 (14.06.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 15 June 2004 (15.06.2004)
International Patent Classification (8th See relevant Information In Form P		
Applicant TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EIN	IDHOVEN	

			" · · · -
1.	This international preliminary a International Searching Author	eport on patentability (Chapte ity under Rule 44 bis.1(a).	er I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the
2.	This REPORT consists of a total	al of 7 sheets, including this co	over sheet.
	In the attached sheets, any refer to the international preliminary		the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference ler I) instead.
3.	This report contains indications	relating to the following item	is:
	Box No. I	Basis of the report	
	Box No. II	Priority	
	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opin applicability	nion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial
	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	•
	Box No. V		Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial explanations supporting such statement
	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	
	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the inter	mational application
	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on th	e international application
4.	The International Bureau will c not, except where the applicant date (Rule 44bir .2).	orrununicate this report to desi makes an express request und	ignated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but or Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority
			Date of issuance of this report 20 December 2006 (20.12.2006)
	The International Bun 34, chemin des Co 1211 Geneva 20, S	ombettes	Authorized officer Nora Lindner
Facsin	nile No. +41 22 338 82 70		e-mail: pt02@wipo.int
om P	CT/IB/373 (January 2004)		<u> </u>

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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1		sification (IPC) or both nation	al classification	and IPC			
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1.	This opinion co	ontains indications relati	ng to the fol	lowing items:			
	☑ Box No. I	Basis of the opinion					
}	☐ Box No. !I	Priorily					
	☐ Box No. III	Non-establishment of op	inion with reg	ard to novelty, i	evitnevni	step and Industrial applic	cability
	☐ Box No. IV	Lack of unity of Invention	1				
	⊠ Box No. V	Reasoned statement un applicability; citations an	der Rule 43 <i>bi</i> d explanation	s.1(a)(i) with reg s supporting su	gard to no Ich st a terr	welly, inventive step or t rent	ndustrial
	☐ Box No. VI	Certain documents cited					
j	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the int					
1	☐ Box No. VIII	Certain observations on	the internation	nal application			
2. •	FURTHER ACT	ION					
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	submit to the IPE	as provided above, consi EA a written reply together mailing of Form PCT/ISA/ es later.	, where appro	priate, with am	endments	s, before the expiration o	of 3 months
	For further option	ns, see Form PCT/ISA/220).				
3.	For further detail	ls, see notes to Form PCT	/ISA/220.				.ę.8
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

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_	Bo	x No	o. I Basis of the opinion
1.	Wit	h re	gard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
		the	international application in the language in which it was filed
		a t pu	ranslation of the International application Into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the rposes of International search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2.			gard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and ary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
	a. t	ype	of material:
	j	□	a sequence listing
	İ		table(s) related to the sequence listing
	b. f	orm	at of material:
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	c. ti	ime	of filing/furnishing:
	l		contained in the international application as filed.
	l		filed together with the international application in electronic form.
	I		furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3.		he: cor	addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional bies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as propriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes: Claims

2-6, 8, 13-22

No: Claims

1, 7, 9-12

Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

16-18

No: Claims

1-15, 19-22

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US-B1-6475217

D2: WO-A1-01/70114

D3: US-A-5163910

D4: WO-A2-01/62169

D5: WO-A1-95/24111

- 1. The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1, 7, 9-12 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.
- 1.1 The document D1, which is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, discloses (see fig. 3, 5; the references in parentheses applying to this document):

A device for generating a local cold plasma (46) over the surface of an object (50), comprising a HF power source (22), a plasma chamber (40), an active electrode (48) placed in the plasma chamber (40) and electrically connected to the HF power source (22), a passageway (28) for a plasma gas leading to the plasma chamber (40) nearby the active electrode (48), with steering means (160) capable of orienting the active electrode (48) with reference to the object (50).

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore not new, according to Article 33(2) PCT.

- 1.2 Further, D1 discloses an assembly containing all the additional features of dependent claims 7, 9-12, which therefore are not new. In particular:
 - claim 7: the steering means comprises a shape memory material (col. 4, lines 18-22);
 - claim 9: the steering means is placed around the active electrode (fig.3, 5);
 - claims 10-12: the device comprises a catheter, with a proximal end and a distal end,

where the active electrode is placed in the distal end, which forms an open plasma chamber (fig.3, 5).

- 2. Dependent claims 2-6, 8, 13-15, 19-22 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT), the reasons being as follows:
- 2.1 The subject-matter of claims 2-5 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 25, lines 5-10; page 35, line 26 page 36, line 6);
- 2.2 The subject-matter of claim 6 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 60-67);
- 2.3 The subject-matter of claim 8 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 37, lines 1-16);
- 2.4 The subject-matter of claims 13-15 is obvious in the light of D1 and D4 (page 42, lines 24-29);
- 2.5 The subject-matter of claim 19 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 42-46);
- 2.6 The subject-matter of claims 20-22 is obvious in the light of D1 and D5 (page 3, lines 18-21; page 5, line 29 page 6, line 9).
- 3. The combination of the features of dependent claims 16-18 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious, by the prior art, the reasons being as follows:
 The possibility for the gas to flow coaxially outside the outer conductor, and with distance rings placed between the outer conductor and the external casing, is not suggested by the available prior art.

4. Additional remark

The drawing reference signs should be indicated in the claims (Guidelines, 5.11).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/NL2005/000434

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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Applicant								<u> </u>
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1. Th	is oplnion co	ontains indication	ons relating t	to the folk	owing items:			
	Box No. I	Basis of the op	inion					
	Box No. II	Priority						
	Box No. III	Non-establishr	ment of opinio	n with rega	ard to novelty, in	evilnevn	slep and industrial a	applicability
\	Box No. IV	Lack of unity o						
	Box No. V	Reasoned state applicability; ci	ement under l tations and ex	Rule 43 <i>bis</i> (planations	:1(a)(i) with reg supporting suc	jard to no ch stateл	velty, inventive slep ent	or industrial
	Box No. VI	Certain docum	ents cited					
1	Box No. VII	Certain defects						
-	Box No. VIII	Certain observ	rations on the	internation	al application			
2. FU	RTHER ACT	ION						
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Inte	ernational But I not be so co	reau under Rule	66.1 <i>bis</i> (b) tha	at written o	pinions of this i	ollannetni	nal Searching Author	ority
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/NL2005/000434

	Во	No. 1 Basis of the opinion
1.	Wit	regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
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	a. ţ	pe of material:
	ı	a sequence listing
	ı	a table(s) related to the sequence listing
	b. f	ormat of material:
	I	□ on paper
	١	in electronic form
	c. t	me of filing/furnishing:
	1	contained in the international application as filed.
		If filed together with the international application in electronic form.
		I furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3.	□	In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

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2-6, 8, 13-22

No: Claims

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Inventive step (IS)

Yes: Claims

16-18

No: Claims

1-15, 19-22

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

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 - claim 9: the steering means is placed around the active electrode (fig.3, 5);
 - claims 10-12: the device comprises a catheter, with a proximal end and a distal end,

where the active electrode is placed in the distal end, which forms an open plasma chamber (fig.3, 5).

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- 2.1 The subject-matter of claims 2-5 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 25, lines 5-10; page 35, line 26 page 36, line 6);
- 2.2 The subject-matter of claim 6 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 60-67);
- 2.3 The subject-matter of claim 8 is obvious in the light of D1 and D2 (page 37, lines 1-16);
- 2.4 The subject-matter of claims 13-15 is obvious in the light of D1 and D4 (page 42, lines 24-29);
- 2.5 The subject-matter of claim 19 is obvious in the light of D1 and D3 (col. 5, lines 42-46);
- 2.6 The subject-matter of claims 20-22 is obvious in the light of D1 and D5 (page 3, lines 18-21; page 5, line 29 page 6, line 9).
- 3. The combination of the features of dependent claims 16-18 is neither known from, nor rendered obvious, by the prior art, the reasons being as follows:
 The possibility for the gas to flow coaxially outside the outer conductor, and with distance rings placed between the outer conductor and the external casing, is not suggested by the available prior art.

4. Additional remark

The drawing reference signs should be indicated in the claims (Guidelines, 5.11).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)

International application No.

PCT/NL2005/000434

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau

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(43) International Publication Date 29 December 2005 (29,12,2005) (10) International Publication Number WO 2005/125287 A3

- (51) International Potent Classification: *H05H 1/24* (2006.01) *A61B 18/0θ* (2006.01)
- (21) International Application Number:

PCT/NL2005/000434

- (22) International Filing Date: 14 June 2005 (14.06.2005)
- (25) Filing Language:

Dutch

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 1026422

15 June 2004 (15.06.2004) NL

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TECH-NISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EINDHOVEN [NL/NL]; Den Dolech 2, NL-5612 AZ Eindhoven (NL).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STOF-FELS-ADAMOWICZ, Eva [BE/BE]; Turnhoutsebaan 90, B-5470 Retie (BB). FRANKEN, Martijn [NL/NL]; Prunellapad 31, NL-5643 BW Eindhoven (NL). STEIN-BUCH, Maarten [NL/NL]; Medevoort 7, NL-5707 DD Helmond (NL). VAN DER LAAN, Ewout, Peter [NL/NL]; Stellenboschstraat 130, NL-5642 GM Eindhoven (NL).
- (74) Agents: VALKONET, Rutger et al.; Algemeen Octrooien Merkenbureau, P.O. Box 645, NL-5600 AP Bindhoven (NL).

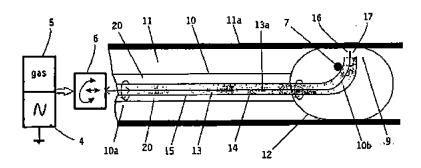
- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of nutional protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, IP, KB, KG, KM, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Pablished:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the International search report: 3 August 2006

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: DEVICE FOR CREATING A LOCAL PLASMA AT THE LOCATION OF AN OBJECT



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a device for creating a local cold plasma at the location of an object, said device at least comprising a high-frequency power source, a plasma chamber, a plasma discharge electrode disposed in said plasma chamber, which is electrically connected to said high-frequency power source, as well as a supply line for a plasma gas, which opens into the plasma chamber at a location near the plasma discharge electrode. The object of the invention is to provide an improved device as referred to in the introduction, which enables an improved control of the created plasma in relation to the object. To that end, the device according to the invention is characterized in that the device comprises adjusting means arranged for automatically orienting the plasma discharge electrode relative to the object.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

T/NL2005/000434

A. CLASSII INV.	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER H05H1/24 A61B18/00		
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С. РОСИМЕ	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANY		
Category	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the rele	evení passagés	Relevant to dalm No.
X	US 6 475 217 B1 (PLATT ROBERT C) 5 November 2002 (2002-11-05) column 1, line 66 - column 2, lin column 3, line 22 - line 27 column 3, line 59 - column 4, lin		1,7,9-12
Y	column 5, line 25 - line 62 column 7, line 2 - line 6 figures 3-5		2-6,8, 13-15, 19-22
		-/ -	
X Funi	her documents are listed in the continuation of Sox C.	See patent family annex.	
"A" docume consider "E" earlier i filing o "L" docume which citatio "O" docume other i "P" docume later ti	ent defining the general state of the ent which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international date that the property of the published on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another no or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means ent published prior to the international filing date but han the priority date claimed	"T' later document published after the late of priority data and not in conflict with cated to understand the principle or the invention." "X" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the do "Y" document of particular relevance; the cannot be considered to involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve an involve in the art. "S" document resmitter of the same palent	the application but sory underlying the standard invention be considered to current is taken sione stained invention wently etch technique step when the bia other such docusts to a parson skilled
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Nerse and (mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5819 Patentiagn 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk	Authorized officer	
	Tel, (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Capostagno, E	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

emetional application No CT/NL2005/000434

degary*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant pessages	Relevant to claim No.
	WO 01/70114 A (RITA MEDICAL SYSTEMS INC; BALBIERZ, DANIEL; EDWARDS, STUART) 27 September 2001 (2001-09-27) page 8, line 1 - line 27 page 12, line 24 - page 13, line 22 page 15, line 1 - line 30 page 22, line 12 - line 31 page 24, line 28 - page 25, line 25 page 26, line 10 - line 28 page 28, line 30 - line 32 page 35, line 26 - page 36, line 6 page 36, line 18 - page 37, line 29 claims 1,47,50 figures	2-5,8
	US 5 163 910 A (SCHWARTZ ET AL) 17 November 1992 (1992-11-17) column 5, line 26 - line 67 figures 2,6	6,19
f	WO 01/62169 A (GYRUS MEDICAL LIMITED; GOBLE, COLIN, CHARLES, OWEN; PENNY, KEITH; HANC) 30 August 2001 (2001-08-30) page 42, line 24 - page 43, line 21	13-15
4	figure 19	21
•	WO 95/24111 A (SOCIETE D'EXPLOITATION DENTAIRE; LHUISSET, FRANCOIS) 8 September 1995 (1995-09-08) page 3, line 3 - line 21 page 5, line 9 - page 6, line 9 page 7, line 14 - line 29 figures 2,3	20-22
\	WO 02/47569 A (C.R. BARD, INC; SAGON, STEPHEN, W; BROWN, CHARLES, E., III; GIBSON, CH) 20 June 2002 (2002-06-20) page 2, line 22 - page 3, line 4 page 3, line 15 - line 16 page 6, line 1 - line 23 page 7, line 30 - page 8, line 1 page 9, line 6 - line 21 page 13, line 25 - page 14, line 14	1-4
A	AU 561 938 B2 (PHAM VAN NHIEU) 10 August 1995 (1995-08-10) 	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	•	Patent lamily member(s)		Publication date
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From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION CONCERNING SUBMISSION OR TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT To:

VALKONET, Rutger Algemeen Octrooi- en Merkenbureau P.O. Box 645 NL-5600 AP Eindhoven PAYS-BAS

(PCT Administrative Instructions, Section 411)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)

12 October 2005 (12.10.2005)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
215743/RV/jn

International application No.
PCT/NL2005/000434

International publication date (day/month/year)

International publication date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year)

15 June 2004 (15.06.2004)

Applicant

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITEIT EINDHOVEN et al

- 1. By means of this Form, which replaces any previously issued notification concerning submission or transmittal of priority documents, the applicant is hereby notified of the date of receipt by the International Bureau of the priority document(s) relating to all earlier application(s) whose priority is claimed. Unless otherwise indicated by the letters "NR", in the right-hand column or by an asterisk appearing next to a date of receipt, the priority document concerned was submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b).
- 2. (If applicable) The letters "NR" appearing in the right-hand column denote a priority document which, on the date of mailing of this Form, had not yet been received by the International Bureau under Rule 17.1(a) or (b). Where, under Rule 17.1(a), the priority document must be submitted by the applicant to the receiving Office or the International Bureau, but the applicant fails to submit the priority document within the applicable time limit under that Rule, the attention of the applicant is directed to Rule 17.1(c) which provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.
- 3. (If applicable) An asterisk (*) appearing next to a date of receipt, in the right-hand column, denotes a priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau but not in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b) (the priority document was received after the time limit prescribed in Rule 17.1(a) or the request to prepare and transmit the priority document was submitted to the receiving Office after the applicable time limit under Rule 17.1(b)). Even though the priority document was not furnished in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b), the International Bureau will nevertheless transmit a copy of the document to the designated Offices, for their consideration. In case such a copy is not accepted by the designated Office as the priority document, Rule 17.1(c) provides that no designated Office may disregard the priority claim concerned before giving the applicant an opportunity, upon entry into the national phase, to furnish the priority document within a time limit which is reasonable under the circumstances.

Priority_date Priority_application_No. Country_or_regional_Office Onte_of_receipt of_priority_document.

15 June 2004 (15.06.2004) 1026422 NL 29 September 2005 (29.09.2005)

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

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